NOVAPPLE Newsletter

VOLUME VIII - NUMBER 2 NORTHERN VIRGINIA APPLE USERS GROUP MARCH 1987

APPLEWORLD '87 PRODUCT EXPO

By Dave Harvey

Attending the AppleWorld '87 did not involve just meetings and discussions with various attendees. There was also an opportunity to take a look at all the hardware and software that was being developed for the new Apple computers. This was the Product Expo part of AppleWorld '87. Since most of our members are Apple II owners, one of the things I had been asked to be on the lookout for was software written specifically for the Apple //GS. And although most of the Product Expo was devoted to new software for the Macintosh SE and Macintosh II (as I guess it should be), I did find some that was being demoed on Apple IIGS computers. One was a new version of Print Shop written only for the GS. It's an outstanding improvement over the original version and it will be only $20 to upgrade to the GS version from the present version. Expected release date is July 4, 1987.

I brought back several demo disks of programs written especially for the Apple IIgs. I will be turning these over to the disk librarian so that any member that wants a copy of them they can get one.
Demos that I got are:

From Activison:
THE MUSIC STUDIO- a music processor program.
SHANGHI - A game-type program

From Electronic Arts:
DELUXE PAINT II- A graphic type paint program.
MUSIC CONSTRUCTION SET- A music generation program.

From DataPak:
GRAPHICWRITER- A combined word processing, graphics, and paint program.

One thing to watch out for is that most of these programs require 512K RAM or more to run, most of them is fact require more than that to run. Some of these have been out for a while, others will be coming out later this year.

--NoVA

DCOM: Terminal Emulator Shareware

Nancy Harvey has a share-ware VT-100 series terminal emulator, DCOM, by James A. Hayes. Translated into what that means to me: I can use my home computer and modem to do work on the Digital Equipment Corp. VAX 11/780 where I work ... I can practice with an Ada compiler from home.

What I have are a SmarTEAM modem (Hayes Smartmodem compatible) and a Laser 128 (which works like an Apple IIe/Apple //c). The Laser 128 has a numeric keypad (but not all of the keys the VT-100 has in its numeric keypad) and ten function keys (which are NOT programmable).

What I don't have is any prior experience with the modem or with the Laser 128 keyboard features that exceed those of the Apple IIe I used to have. Still, with just this one piece of software, I have edited, run programs and sent files to the printer, on the VAX. I have also gotten onto the Novapple BBS.

If I continue to like the DCOM shareware and use it, what James A. Hayes wants from me is $25 to $65, depending upon what I want, like, whether I want assembly language source code.

I logged onto the Novapple bulletin board, and while the phone was ringing, hit open-apple/P, and sure enough, everything the board was sending me was getting printed on my printer. Looks like Jim Hayes is going to get some of my money.

--NoVA

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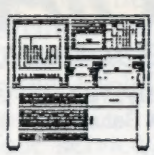

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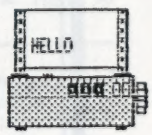

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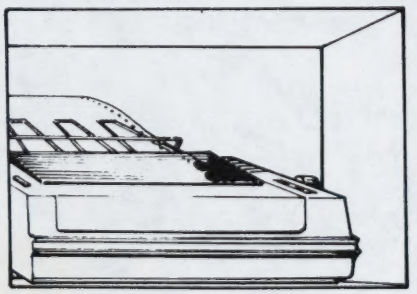

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Clinton Computer's New Store in Tyson's Corner, VA

In addition, our Clinton and Alexandria stores are authorized IBM™ Personal Computer dealerships. We also sell printers, monitors, software, supplies, and service for the products we sell.

Clinton Computer was founded in 1978 by co-owners Art Lundquist and Chuck Perilli. It began as a two-man consulting firm on the fourth floor of an office building and grew into a $20-million-dollar retail business with over 90 employees.

The first retail store was in Clinton, MD, behind a shoe store. Then the company moved to a shopping center fronting on Branch Avenue in Clinton in 1982. In 1984, Clinton Computer expanded by opening a retail Business Center in Old Town Alexandria.

The Laurel, MD, store opened in 1986 when we acquired the assets of the Comm Center. The newest store opened November 24 in the highly competitive Tyson's Corner area at 8032 Leesburg Pike (Rt. 7 West). This is an "Apple Only" store, carrying Apple products and third party products that complement the Apple line.

The company also operates a huge 3600-square-foot service and repair facility in Clinton, with satellite repair shops at the Laurel, Vienna and Alexandria Stores.

Clinton Computer Opens "Apple Only" Store in Vienna, VA

Clinton Computer's newest retail store is an "Apple Only" facility in the highly competitive Tyson's Corner area of Vienna, VA. Company President Art Lundquist wants to focus on a single vendor of a market segment.

Cheryl Jarratt has been promoted to be the Tyson's Branch Manager. She had been Clinton Computer's Director of Marketing.

"I am very optimistic about the success of the new branch. We are one of the most profitable computer dealers due to our commitment to customer satisfaction," said Cheryl.

DISCOUNT POLICY FOR NOVAPPLE MEMBERS

CLINTON COMPUTER offers NOVAPPLE members a 25% DISCOUNT OFF THE LIST PRICE on all non-allocated Apple brand peripherals and software and on AppleCare (no CPUs). For upgrades, the 25% discount applies only to the parts; the normal labor rate will be charged. Discount is available to persons who have been NOVAPPLE members for at least 3 months. Discount applies to cash and certified check purchases and cannot be applied retroactively. Add 1% for credit card and personal check purchases. If the product is not in stock, we can take your prepaid order. Members need to present their cards up-front. No phone or mail orders, please. Discount cannot be used in combination with other promotions. Products on allocation from Apple are excluded from this offer. Clinton Computer reserves the right to change this policy at any time.

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FORMAT II	HARVEY,DAVE	578-4621
FORTH	HOLDGREIWE, DAN	354-3561
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Printers: prowriter, okidata, gemini, centronics.

Investments:stocks,bonds, commodities, printer interfaces, real estate SOURCE

hard disks, logo 128K/memory cards,etc...

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You may leave questions on the Bulletin Board with your name or NOVAPPLE ## as an alternative.

MACINTOSH II: POWER ON AND OFF

The Macintosh II does not have a "hard" power on and power off switch. There are two ways to turn on the computer: you use the keyboard's Power On key above the numeric row of keys or the power button next to the sound jack on the back panel of the Macintosh II.

Pushing the Power On key or the power button sends a request to the Macintosh II's logic board to begin the startup sequence. Either way may be used; they are equivalent.

To power off the Macintosh II, use the Shut Down command from an application or from the Finder. Choosing Shut Down permits the Macintosh II to close open files, update the directory on each disk, and power off the system. Alternatively, you may press the power button on the back panel of the Macintosh II to initiate this sequence of events. Do not remove AC power from the system unless neither Shut Down nor the power button produce results. Removing power is likely to result in lost or damaged files because there isn't enough time for the computer to update disk information.

To restart the computer with a different boot disk or to cause the Macintosh II to recognize newly installed devices, you may wish to reboot the Macintosh II system by choosing Restart from the Special Finder menu. The Macintosh II will save file information as needed, power off the system, and immediately startup the system again.

--NoVA83

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SCSI HARD DISK DRIVES: Using them on different Macintoshes

This article pertains to all external SCSI hard disks: Apple HD20SC, Apple HD40SC, and Apple HD80SC.

To initilaize a SCSI hard disk drive you want to use on a Macintosh:

1. Always use Apple HD SC Setup.
2. Always initialize from the type of Macintosh the drive will be connected to. For example, if you wish to connect a Apple HD40 SC to a Macintosh Plus, initialize that hard disk with a Macintosh Plus.

If you want more than one type of Macintosh to access the SCSI hard disk, always initialize it from the slowest system for the best average performance. You must do this because, with Apple HD SC Setup, different types of Macintoshes initialize a SCSI hard disk with a different interleave.

Computer	Interleave	"speed"
Macintosh II	1:1	"fast"
Macintosh SE	2:1	"medium"
Macintosh Plus	3:1	"slow"
Apple II	3:1	"slow"

Interleave is the ratio of consecutive sectors a CPU can read from or write to. This means that a Macintosh II is fast enough to read from or write to every consecutive sector, a Macintosh SE can only read every other sector, and the Macintosh Plus is only fast enough to read one in every three sectors. An Apple II also has an interleave of 3:1. The Apple II can support a 3:1 interleave because the SCSI card has a 8K RAM buffer enabling it to buffer data until the CPU is ready for it.

Delays occur when you connect a "slower" Macintosh to a hard disk initialized on a "faster" Macintosh. For example, a hard disk intialized from a Macintosh II has more data on every consecutive sector than a Macintosh Plus can consecutively read, necessitating a full revolution of the platter before the Macintosh Plus can access the sectors it knows it missed. There's a delay of the revolution of only one or two sectors when a "fast" Macintosh accesses a hard disk intialized from a "slower" Macintosh.

--NoVA

LASERWRITER DRIVER 3.3: Enhancements and fixes

LaserWriter Version 3.3 and LaserPrep Version 3.3 are on the disks for the Macintosh System Tools Version 1.0 and Utility Version 1.0 that ship with the Macintosh SE. Outlined below are some of the differences, enhancements and problem fixes, between these LaserWriter drivers and the older driver, 3.1, and earlier. Not listed are fixes to several obscure, minor, and cosmetic problems.

A. The driver resets (software power-cycle) the LaserWriter if it was initialized with an incompatible driver version.
B. There's a fix to a problem encountered in all applications, most notably in Microsoft Excel: bytes were randomly written in memory, causing some programs to crash when printing.
C. Bitmap printing has been completely changed to improve appearance and performance.

1. There's an added routine, similar to smoothing, which pre-stretches bitmaps to the required dimensions before imaging; this allows bitmaps to print much faster.
2. Clipping problems in bitmaps are gone.
3. Random garbage in stretched bitmaps is gone.
4. "Stitching" between bands of adjacent bitmaps has been greatly improved to eliminate hairline gaps.

D. Bitmap fonts have been changed for greater speed. Bitmap fonts above 36 points now download and print correctly and print faster in a higher quality.
E. There's a fix to a long-standing bug in the orientation of rotated QuickDraw patterns on various types of printers.
F. Fonts on PostScript printers are no longer pre-coordinated at printer initialization time but only as they are needed. This frees room for downloading other fonts and doesn't require spoolers to know anything about font coordination.
G. Because they required more than 30 seconds to generate data for the printer, some applications were aborted for insufficient activity on the network. This timeout has been extended to 5 minutes.
H. If a PostScript error occurs, a print error is now generated by the driver to tell the application to stop printing. The error message stops the application from having to generate any more document data which the driver would ignore anyway.
I. Font substitution is now disabled in all cases where fractional pixel widths have been enabled. Disabling font substitution fixes a bug encountered by applications that use the fractional pixel width mode, such as WriteNow, Word 3.0, PageMaker 2.0, and MicroSoft Works. Previously, single-font paragraphs could appear printed with different lines in the non-substituted form as well as the substituted font.

J. Font downloading now occurs whenever it might improve output or if the font might not be available on the printer. This solves the problem on some 3rd party spoolers which sometimes did not have the font available.
K. Some minor problems with dialog boxes were fixed along with some cosmetic changes made to dialog boxes and alert windows.
L. Bitmaps one pixel wide can be printed.
M. Zero width characters are now printed correctly. This fixes a bug where some characters in fonts such as Music and other symbols could not be printed.
N. Cover sheets now default to print in Helvetica instead of Courier.
O. Document names sometimes defaulted to the last document printed. Now, if a document name is not known, "unknown" appears in the dialog box.
P. There's a fix to a bug in printing circles and ovals where some of these objects, when rendered extremely narrow or flat, had gaps at the beginning and end joints.
Q. Sometimes the driver had difficulty printing when the amount of memory available in the Macintosh was low. This caused unrepeatable crashes with strange result codes. Though this problem cannot be detected or eliminated in all cases, the fix has made the situation significantly more robust and reliable.

-- If enough memory is not available for printing, the driver will try to reduce its memory requirements enough to print. If it cannot, it will abort the printing altogether. It will print slowly or not at all, but at least it won't crash.

R. A problem in the QuickDraw comment to include PostScript in a handle has been fixed so that the QuickDraw comment now works correctly.
S. If the printer is reintializing, the driver will now wait until the printer is available.
T. Another alert for spoolers was added. If the remote printer is actually a spooler rather than a printer, initialization of the printer is not permitted.

--NoVAC

SO FAR
The First Ten Years of a Vision

by Dave Harvey

When I first arrived at AppleWorld '87 in Los Angeles on 1 March 1987, there were a number of materials that Apple passed out to all attendees of the conference. One of these items was a large (11 1/2" X 14") format book commemorating the ten anniversary of Apple Computer called "So Far - The First Ten Years of a Vision". It's a very beautiful book with lots of high quality color pictures and was conceived, developed and produced by Apple Creative Services. The text is by Rob Price, design by Jill Savini and the creative director was Thom Marchionna.

It traces the history of Apple Computer Company from March, 1976 when Steve Wozniak (26) and Steve Jobs (21) finish their work on a preassembled computer circuit board. The first prototype has taken about six months to design and 40 hours to build. It has no keyboard, case, sound, or graphics. They call it the Apple I. As the preface says, the book is not about computers, but rather about people. It's now ten years since Apple began to make computers for people who never thought they'd use a computer--high time for a little self-examination. To that end, Apple sent forty-three of the world's most respected photojournalists on a tow-week journey across the map: China, Kenya, Greece, India, Holland, Italy, Japan, Australia, Mexico, Switzerland, England, Belgium, Malaysia, West Germany, Sweden, Canada, and throughout the United States. The people they found, the stories they told.

The book is divided into a number of areas giving the some of the common traits of humans and how use of Apple Computers has managed to amplify some of these traits such as freedom, courage and imagination. And at the same time interspersed between these 13 human traits are four "Time Capsules" chronicling the history of Apple--1976-1979, 1980-1983, 1984 and 1985-1986.

There are lots of pictures of people from all walks of life and from all over the world. They show how an Apple Computer has changed their life for the better. It's quite an inspiring book and makes you wonder about other stories that could have been written about others who were also affected by the Apple Computer revolution.

An outstanding book and I recommend that take a look at it. There was no word on whether the book would be available for sale to those people who did not attend the AppleWorld '87 Conference. I know that I would buy it if it was available. But. it will be put in the NOVAPPLE paper library and will be available for checkout which I recommend you do because you really need some time to read and enjoy the book.

--NoVA

APPLE IIGS DEMO DISKS
now available from NOVA Library

Deluxe Paint II
Electronic Arts - 608 K required

a paint program with 2/3D capability fabulous sample pictures allows use of almost all creation and editing features.

Music Construction Set:
Electronic Arts - 256K required

Player Demo. Does not allow use of creation/editing feature. Lots of chords using the 15 voice capability of the IIgs.

The Music Studio
Activision - 512 K required

Player demo. Does not allow use of creation/editing features. Demo uses IIgs sound and graphics to send pastel colored notes dancing across the screen in time to the music. Tunes are jazzier and more contemporary than those on the Music Construction set demo.

Graphicwriter
Datapak

Wordprocessor for IIgs. Allows combination of text and graphics. Demo allows limited use of edit capabilities.

Shanghai
Activision

A mah-jong like game. Demo allows playing of one game in solitaire mode. Be careful it is a very addictive game.

Demo's are not fully operational copies of the software. The NOVA disk library is offering these recent demo's for the IIgs as to see if our members find them useful. Only items clearly marked as intended for demonstration will be included in the demo library. In addition the demo must offer more than a floppy advertisement for the product. The selected demo's either allow extensive interactive use of the major features of the program (Deluxe Paint II, Shanghai) or provide entertainment value by demonstrating advanced IIgs capabilities in an interesting way (Music Construction Set, the Music Studio).

Copies are available from the library only on 3 1/2 inch disks. Cost is either a brand name 3 1/2 disk plus $1.00 or $3.00. Copies are made by volunteers so to be sure the ones you want are available it is best to call ahead.

--NoVA

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

REGULAR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

1st Saturday -- Room 110 or 120, Bisdorf Bldg, Alex Campus NoVA CC - 10:00 AM
3rd Wednesday -- Room No.1, FAIRLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTER
3300 S. Stafford Street in Arlington - 7:30 PM

Saturday	Mar. 7	10:00 AM	NVCC	Garage Sale!!!
Wednesday	Mar. 18	7:30 PM	FCC	Spreadsheets - Tax & Money Use
Saturday	Apr. 4	10:00 AM	NVCC	Genealogy - Family Roots
Wednesday	Apr. 15	7:30 PM	FCC	More Money Management
Saturday	May 2	10:00 AM	NVCC	Memory Cards - RamWorks, GS Ram
Wednesday	May 20	7:30 PM	FCC	ART - Graphics
Saturday	Jun. 6	10:00 AM	NVCC	Disk Architecture - Copy Protect
Wednesday	Jun. 20	7:30 PM	FCC	Open meeting schedule

AFFORDABLE VT100 Terminal Emulation for the APPLE II SERIES AT LAST!!!

By Nancy Harvey

DCOM3.3 a shareware program, from Jim Hayes provides full VT100 terminal emulation, both screen and keyboard, for the Apple II+, IIc, IIe . It is simple to operate, using the open apple key before the q,w,e,r key to simulate DEC's special PF1,2,3,4 keys. The open apple key is also used before other keys to indicate special keypad functions. (Ctrl-A provides the open apple substitute for the II+). In addition some VT200 capabilities have been included to provide better response when using UNIX editors.

Written in assembly language by a serious user of DEC computers visual editors, this is a high performance package. It can operate at speeds of up to 7200 using dumb interface cards.

Equipment supported: (1) Communications drivers: Super Serial Card, IIc driver, ALS Dispatcher, Mountain Computer CPS Multifunction Card, Generic Pascal compatible. (2) Screen Drivers: Double Vision, OmniVision, Videx 80, standard apple. (3) Dialers: Hayes, Ungermann/Bass Net-One.

Functions supported: (1) setup: tabs, default terminal, click keys, truncate or wrap, invert screen; (2) dial, redial (3) hang-up (4) Print screen (5) echo all from host to printer (6) send break (if your hardware can).

If you want to write your own drivers, 20 pages of information are provided to start you off.

The program is in DOS3.3. It does not include any file transfer capability. However, third hand info indicates that Kermit (also available from our disk library) can be placed on the DCOM disk and used for the file transfer. Your mainframe must support Kermit in order for this to work.

Jim asks that you try his program for 30 days --if you like it he asks that you send him $25.00 for the program, printed documentation and notice of updates. If you would like the source code that is available for another $10.00.

Jim's address is: P.O. Box 221044
University City CA
92122-1044.
Phone: 619-587-1431 (until June 87).

I immediately began using this program with our in-house office system which requires extensive VT100 screen and keypad capabilities. This program works like a champ. It beats Access II and many other "higher" priced

spreads in its implementation of VT100. Mac's and IBM PC's have had shareware VT100 available for years but this is the first one I have ever found available for the Apple II series. Happily it is an excellent one and sets a standard by which other vt100 emulations on the Apple will be judged.

A copy has been added to the NOVA disk library.

--NoVA8

PRINTER CONTROL FROM MICROSOFT MULTIPLAN

by Betsy Robinson

Recently, I have needed to interface Multiplan to a Star Gemini NX-10 from my new Laser 128. I thought I'd share how I did it ... and how I figured it out, which might help others dig out printer interfacing information. For good measure, I will toss in what I learned earlier, about interfacing Multiplan to a C-Itoh Prowriter from an Apple IIe via a PKASO interface card.

The only "special" capability I've ever wanted for printing a Multiplan spreadsheet is to get compressed print (approximately 132 characters across the page, instead of 80), but BOY have I wanted that. No matter what printer setup you have, the "place" in a spreadsheet file where you must enter special characters is in the Setup field of the Print Options:

Select P for Print
Under Print, select Options
Under Options, tab over to Setup
There, enter the necessary special characters, such as the ^[^O I need for the NX-10 from the Laser 128.

AND SAVE THE SPREADSHEET, so you won't have to do it all over again.

I suspect that what I need from the Laser 128 is what Apple //c users would need, and what people using an Apple Super Serial card would need. In any event, it may help you to follow how I figured out the code I need, which is ^[^O. To do so requires sleuthing through the Multiplan manual and through my printer manual. (If you have a "smart" interface card, you may either commad it directly or tell it to look the other way while you talk directly to your printer; which one you decide to do will determine which manuals you research.)

^[^O is Multiplanese for <ESC> <SI>, or CHR$(27) CHR$(15). That O is a capital letter, not zero, by the way.

I don't play adventure games; searching manuals for this kind of information takes care of any of that urge:

Multiplan locates their printer setup information on pages xxxvi and xxxvii, "Operating Information" (which you can discover eventually by using the index for topics like printing). That tells you to use a carat (^) when you want to send a control character from the Print Options setup field. AND it tells you the real gem that ^[will produce the code for <ESC>.

(A little digression ... When I was using a C.Itoh Prowriter and a Pkaso card, the lead-in code needed to command the Pkaso card was Ctrl-I ... as it is to send commands to the Grappler cards. However, the Pkaso manual made the interesting observation that from Pascal, one had to use Ctrl-Y. Well, it would appear that Multiplan was written in Pascal, because you use ^Y in the setup field, when you would normally send Ctrl-I from a BASIC program to the Pkaso interface card.)

The Star Gemini NX10 printer has a fat manual, through which you hunt around from table to table. (OK, the definitive "table" is a series of paragraphs listing the marvels of versatility of this printer ... and I kid you not ... from which I learned that for condensed print, I wanted <ESC> <SI>, Appendix D, page 170.) Great! Just what would produce a good old teletype SI (whatever that was)? Well, in Appendix B, page 135, I fould that Ctrl-O is an <SI>.

Voila! ^[^O ... and when I keyed it in, I had that good solid feeling it would work. (I knew a honcho for a COBOL shop, and he said you hadn't found a bug while you were still in the "why don't we try ...." stage; when you had found a solution, you KNEW you'd found it.)

Having written that I'd never wanted anything special but compressed print, of course, I started a "yeah but" thought process ... with two resulting observations for you: It takes an <ESC> "4" to tell the NX-10 you want italics. You can get compressed italics from the NX-10 by saying ^[4^O, but not by saying ^[^O4. And, you cannot decide how effective a code is unless you turn the printer off and on, between attempts, because it "remembers" things you told it, last time.

I cannot answer for any other printers ... Unless it helps you to know that we have to send the Okidata at work a CHR$(29) to get it into compressed print mode.

(Some of you will remember I had trouble booting Multiplan from the Laser 128? The only problem was that I didn't have the printer turned on and on-line. Multiplan is "that way." As I expected, the Multiplan I have (for an un-enhanced Apple IIe) works just fine with the Laser 128 EXCEPT that what "should be" inverse video capital letters are "Mouse text characters". Inverse numerals and inverse lower case letters show up as exactly that. I wouldn't CHOOSE it and fork over money for it, these days, but I certainly can use the several files I already had under Multiplan.)

--NoVA83

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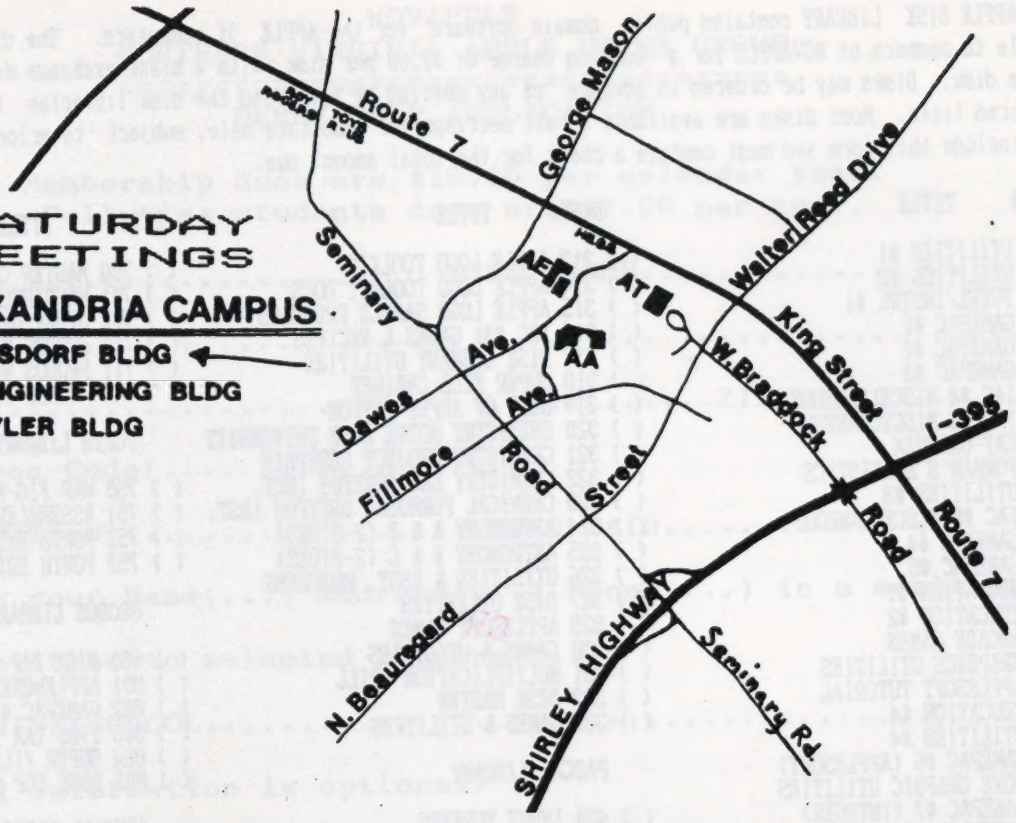

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